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By His Excellency

Thomas Chittenden Esqr

Captain General Governor and Commander in Chief

in and over the State of Vermont.

A PROCLAMATION

As it is the Duty of Individuals, so it is undoubtedly that of Communities meekly to offer up Testimonials of their Acknowledgement to GOD, as the Source of all Good; the Supreme Governor of the Universe, and that Being on whom they universally and solely depend;

and, under a grateful Sense of Divine Mercy, with contrite Penitence of Heart, their Sins, most humbly to implore the Forgiveness thereof, and a Continuance of Divine Favour.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of Council, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint,

WEDNESDAY the Twenty-seventh day of September, to be observed as a day of Public Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer to Almighty GOD throughout this State;

and I earnestly recommend it to all Ministers of the Gospel, and Congregations of the people of every denomination, to meet together on said day, and duly observe the same;

that we may unitedly lift up our hearts and voices to GOD by Prayer and Supplication, acknowledge the supreme right of universal divine government;

humble ourselves under a sense of our manifold Sins, and guilt as a people, imploring the forgiveness thereof; and a continuance of GOD's mercy; that in pursuance,

he would graciously please to continue and perfect a work of the divine Spirit, begun in much mercy in sundry parts of this State; prevent declensions and error, and grant a universal spread of divine light and truth;

That he would graciously please to bless us in our several Characters and relations as rulers and ruled;

necessary wisdom and prudence. the just spirit of their respective stations, and to the latter all due obedience and subjection, and that the fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of true wisdom, may ever be before our eyes as a people; that he would graciously please to perpetuate to this and the United States, the blessings of peace, and in mercy, prevent the effusion of blood, by the breaking out of war in Europe; that he would bless the administration of equal justice and government in this state, and endue our councils with wisdom fidelity, and love to universal justice, and ever direct them in such ways as he shall own and bless to subserve the safety, peace, and best interests of this people; that he would graciously direct an important council of this state,* whose deliberations is expected the ensuing year, That he would smile upon and bless us in all our important interests, and concerns, secure the common means of education, and such further attempts as may be made for establishing seminaries of a preached Gospell, raise up and send forth faithfull ministers of Jesus Christ, for the supply of the many destitute places; that he would cause vice and immorality to hide its head; the knowledge and love of truth, in the gospel vien, to increase and abound; that we may universally become a truely vertuous, and holy and (in the way) a happy people, and that a spirit of reformation and turning to the Lord may be poured out on all nations, That he would graciously bless the labours of our hands, and bring forward the springing of this year in mercy; cause the earth to yield due increase; granting us seasonable seed time and plentifull harvests; preserve this land from pestilence, famine and dearth; that this year may be crowned with his loving kindness and tender mercies; our hearts be filled with unfeigned gratitude, and the whole world be universally baptized with displays of Divine Glory.

All servile labours and recreations are forbidden on said day.

Given under my Hand at Arlington this Twenty fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty five, and of our Independence the seventh

Thomas Chittenden

By his Excellency's Command

Thomas Tolman secretary

God save the People --

* The Council of Censors